

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows, in which insertions are underlined and deletions are indicated with strikethrough or brackets. The following listing replaces all previous versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) An engine, wherein an engine body including a crankcase includes a plurality of cylinder bores, and an intake plenum common to all of said cylinder bores is operatively attached to said engine body;

wherein a plurality of electric parts are disposed around said intake plenum, said plurality of electric parts comprising a plurality of electromagnetic fuel injectors and a plurality of ignition coils; and said plurality of electric parts are covered with a unitary shield cover attached to said engine body in such a manner as to cover at least part of said intake plenum and in such a manner that an electrically conductive material gasket is sandwiched provided between the shield cover and the engine body, ~~to provide an~~ the electrically conductive gasket providing a direct electrical connection between the shield cover and the engine body, wherein the shield cover is provided in a size and shape sufficient to protectively cover all of said fuel injectors and ignition coils.

2. (Original) The engine of claim 1, wherein said intake plenum comprises a hollow housing defining an intake chamber therein, and a plurality of runners in fluid communication with said housing and extending therefrom to supply air to respective cylinders of said engine.

3. (Original) The engine of claim 2, wherein each of said runners comprises a connecting pipe having an outwardly flared pickup end.

4. (Original) The engine of claim 2, wherein each of said runners further comprises an arcuately curved intake pipe operatively attached to said connecting pipe.

5. (Original) The engine of claim 2, wherein each of said connecting pipes curves rearwardly in said plenum.

6. (Previously presented) An engine according to claim 1, characterized in that said engine body includes said cylinder bores opposed to each other and sandwiching a crankshaft, which is rotatably supported on said crankcase, from the opposite sides therebetween, wherein said intake plenum is disposed above said crankcase, and wherein said shield is configured to substantially cover said cylinder bores.

7. (Previously presented) An engine according to claim 1,

wherein said intake plenum comprises a hollow housing defining an intake chamber therein;

wherein an electronic control unit which is one of said electric parts is attached to an outer face of a side wall of said intake plenum; and

wherein a sensor for detecting a condition in said intake chamber extends from said electronic control unit through said side wall and into said intake chamber.

8. (Original) The engine of claim 1, wherein said plurality of electrical parts includes at least two parts selected from the group consisting of coils, control modules, sensors, plug wires and

injectors.

9. (Original) The engine of claim 1, further comprising at least one throttle body operatively connected to said intake plenum.

10. (Original) The engine of claim 9, further comprising an air cleaner housing operatively connected to said throttle body.

11. (Currently amended) An engine, comprising:

an engine body including a crankcase having a plurality of cylinder bores formed therein,
an intake plenum common to all of said cylinder bores, wherein said intake plenum is
operatively attached to said engine body;

a shield cover operatively attached to said engine body and comprising a metal plate;

a ground connector electrically connecting said shield cover to said engine body, the
ground connector comprising an electrically conductive ~~material gasket~~ sandwiched between the
shield cover and the engine body, the electrically conductive gasket providing a direct electrical
connection between the shield cover and the engine body;

a plurality of electric parts disposed around said intake plenum, said plurality of electric
parts comprising a plurality of electromagnetic fuel injectors and a plurality of ignition coils;

wherein said plurality of electric parts are covered with said shield cover attached to said
engine body in such a manner as to entirely cover at least part of said intake plenum,

wherein said cylinder bores are substantially opposed to each other and sandwiching a
crankshaft, which is rotatably supported on said crankcase, from the opposite sides therebetween,

wherein said intake plenum is disposed above said crankcase;

and wherein the shield cover is provided in a size and shape sufficient to protectively cover all of said fuel injectors and ignition coils.

12. (Previously Presented) An engine according to claim 11,

wherein said intake plenum comprises a hollow housing defining an intake chamber therein characterized in that;

wherein an electronic control unit which is one of said electric parts is attached to an outer face of a side wall of said intake plenum; and

wherein a sensor for detecting a condition in said intake chamber extends from said electronic control unit through said side wall and into said intake chamber.

13. (Original) The engine of claim 11, wherein said intake plenum comprises a hollow housing defining an intake chamber therein, and a plurality of runners in fluid communication with said housing and extending therefrom to supply air to respective cylinders of said engine.

14. (Original) The engine of claim 13, wherein each of said runners comprises a connecting pipe having an outwardly flared pickup end.

15. (Original) The engine of claim 13, wherein each of said runners further comprises an arcuately curved intake pipe operatively attached to said connecting pipe.

16. (Original) The engine of claim 13, wherein each of said connecting pipes curves rearwardly

in said plenum.

17. (Original) An engine according to claim 11, wherein said plurality of electrical parts includes at least two parts selected from the group consisting of coils, control modules, sensors, plug wires and injectors.

18. (Original) The engine of claim 11, further comprising at least one throttle body operatively connected to said intake plenum.

19. (Original) The engine of claim 11, further comprising an air cleaner housing operatively connected to said throttle body.

20. (Currently amended) An engine wherein an engine body including a crankcase includes a plurality of cylinder bores and an intake manifold having a plurality of intake pipes individually corresponding to said cylinder bores is operatively attached to said engine body, characterized in that a one-piece shield cover ~~which interconnects said intake pipes and~~ covers a plurality of electric parts is provided in such a manner as to substantially cover said plenum and to electrically shield said plurality of electric parts, the one piece shield cover comprising intake pipes formed integrally within the shield cover such that the intake pipes are interconnected.

wherein the shield cover is provided in a sufficient width as to substantially entirely cover said cylinder bores.

21. (currently amended) An engine, wherein an engine body including a crankcase includes a

plurality of cylinder bores, and an intake plenum common to all of said cylinder bores is operatively attached to said engine body;

wherein a plurality of electric parts are disposed around said intake plenum, said plurality of electric parts comprising a plurality of electromagnetic fuel injectors and a plurality of ignition coils; and

said plurality of electric parts are covered with a unitary electrical interference shield cover attached to said engine body ~~in such a manner as to~~ through a gasket which provides a direct electrically conductive connection between the shield cover and the engine body, the shield cover configured to cover at least part of said intake plenum, wherein the shield cover is provided in a size and shape sufficient to protectively cover all of said fuel injectors and ignition coils, the shield cover providing a barrier which resists passage of external electromagnetic waves therethrough, in order to protect said plurality of electric parts.